



Committee on Homeland Security Democrats

Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking Member

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Rep. Bennie G. Thompson Questions the Transportation Security Administration's Plan for 2005 Summer Travel

WASHINGTON— Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Homeland Security sent the attached letter today to the Department of Homeland Security asking what the agency is doing to eliminate unnecessary delays in summer traveling.

Congressman Thompson stated, **“While there is little that can be done about weather-related disruptions, we believe that delays caused by congestion at airport passenger checkpoints can be avoided or improved. TSA should be working with air carriers and airport operators to incorporate lessons learned from previous busy travel periods to ensure that screening resources are properly deployed. This will allow the flying public to get to their final destinations as quickly and efficiently as possible.**

Since the beginning of the year, congestion and delays at the nation's airports have been significantly increasing. The average delays are almost an hour. Six of the nation's airports are expected to have the heaviest flow of passengers: Philadelphia International Airport, New York LaGuardia Airport, Newark International Airport, Washington Dulles Airport, Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport, and Fort Lauderdale Airport.

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